

MINUTES
BROWNS PLAINS LANDFILL COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETING
OF
23 June 2015

ATTENDEES: M Asnicar (Waste Services Branch - WSB)
R Oakley (WSB)
E Singh (WSB)
B White (WSB)
L Banks (Community Representative)

The meeting commenced at 1:05pm.

1.0 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Dalley, J A Lee (Community Representative)

N Martin, L Miller, S Weber, L Boyd, D Moore, P Cohen, E Koch, F and M Laughton, G Williams, A and H Priday, D Eldridge, L Ross, L and M Blunt, S Baker, J Ooms (all Community Representatives) did not attend.

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

L Banks expressed her view that the minutes of the meeting of 24 March 2015 were incorrect, and that a previous telephone conversation with Waste Service officer had not been recorded.

3.0 BUSINESS ARISING

3.1 Landfill Odour

3.1.1 Odour Complaints

There have been 30 odour complaints received during the 2014/15 year to date. This compares to 68 for the same period in 2013/14.

There were 4 complaints received during the three-month period of March to May 2015. This compared to 36 for the same three-month period in 2014/15. Details were as follows:

March 2015

There was one odour complaint received regarding the landfill during March 2015. Details were as follows:

- 06/03/15 - 3.00pm - Trebeck Street - The resident was advised of the new landfill cell location and odour control systems (fixed and mobile) that can be used at the site. She was also advised that technical problems are currently being experienced with the mobile demister which is expected to be operational within the week. At the time of the complaint the wind was 16 km/hr from the east.

April 2015

There were no odour complaints received regarding the landfill during April 2015:

May 2015

There were 3 odour complaints received regarding the landfill during May 2015. Details were as follows:

- 05/05/15 - Volstead Road, Heritage Park - The resident called Waste Services in the morning about the odour which she had been experiencing the previous night. She advised that the odour was prominent all night and that the demisters were turned off when everyone went home. She did not want a call back. At the time of the complaint the wind was 5.7 km/hr from the north/northwest.
- 06/05/15 - (no specific address provided) Heritage Park - The resident called Waste Services in the afternoon to advise about the odour which had been experienced since Monday the 4th. At the time of the complaint the wind was 4.7 km/hr from the southwest.
- 20/05/15 - Lamberth Street - The resident called Waste Services late in the afternoon to advise about the odour which had been experienced for the past few months at exactly 12pm every day. At the time of the complaint the wind was 3.2 km/hr from the north.

S Baker requested (via email) the matter of capturing after hours calls be discussed in her absence. She stated that multiple afterhours complaints made by her have not been recorded in previous minutes.

M. Asnicar investigated this matter and advised that odour complaints received after hours where no name and address details are provided, were not being transferred to the main complaint database that is used for the meeting minutes. He went on to implement a more comprehensive procedure so that 'anonymous' complaints via either the afterhours call centre or by other means will be captured from now on.

3.1.2 Cell 2D operations

R Oakley gave a brief review of operations of the new cell over the last few months. He advised that all putrescible waste, household and commercial, is deposited in the new cell. Only dry solid waste from the transfer stations is being deposited into cell 2F. This waste is considered very low odour risk, as it contains no significant putrescible components.

L Banks enquired if weather conditions have affected a change in odour.

M Asnicar confirmed that the mist created by the cooler temperatures is trapping odour for a period of time in the mornings. As the mist clears residents should notice a reduction in odour. In addition, the demister around the new cell should help control odours carried by northerly winds.

R Oakley advised that extreme rain events in early May caused significant flooding of the Browns Plains Landfill. Over 9 million litres of rain were collected in the base of the cell which significantly disrupted operations. This resulted in tipping operations being diverted from the base of cell 2D to the North West corner of cell 2D, which was out of the flooded area.

L Banks enquired if either Council pays or charges the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection office for any odour investigations they undertake. M Asnicar confirmed that no payments are exchanged.

3.2 Environmental Performance

The Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP) was notified of an exceedance relating to release water monitoring and statistically significant results relating to groundwater and surface water monitoring noted in February 2015 monitoring round.

3.3 Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP)

An extreme rain event on 1 May 2015 caused significant flooding of the site. The facility's weather station recorded over 216mm of rain fall in less than 24 hrs, with over 140mm of that total falling in less than 5 hours in the mid-afternoon and early evening period.

Site staff deployed the necessary pump system to manage stormwater out of cell 2D however, the rate and volume of stormwater runoff caused flash flooding resulting in off-site discharge. Transfer hoses and pump equipment were also swept away, thus exacerbating the situation.

A minimum of 9.72 million litres of rain were collected in the base of the new cell 2D and this significantly disrupted operations. Tipping operations were diverted to the older cell 2F, which was higher, but closer to residents. Within 24hrs site staff recovered and redeployed the necessary pump system to manage the appropriate transfer of leachate and stormwater out of the cell. Waste deposit operations recommenced in the base of the cell 2D six days after the rain event, and a further 5 days later all flood water was completely removed.

3.4 Ibis Update

Numbers of ibis recorded at the site have been as follows:

| 2014 | Average Daily Count |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| November | 717 |
| December | 356 |
| 2015 | |
| January | 379 |
| February | 266 |
| March | 208 |
| April | 1636 |
| May | 1546 |

The most recent report from the ibis control contractor is summarised below:

- An average of 1546 White Ibis were present on site prior to harassment activities in May;
- The new cell is allowing for a spread in Ibis across the site;
- A quad bike has been intermittently utilised as a dispersal tactic to assess effectiveness.
- No nests were identified within the site extent;

- Highly active nesting continues at identified areas off Bayliss Road;

3.5 Fire Ant Update

While doing some routine maintenance work on 18 March 2015 WS Branch staff noticed a suspicious ant nest near the rugby union clubhouse near the Browns Plains Road frontage of the site. Some samples were taken and submitted to Biosecurity Queensland who subsequently confirmed that they were fire ants. The nest was chemically treated soon after the discovery and will be monitored.

3.6 Bayliss Road Entry to Landfill

M Asnicar advised that construction of the new entrance road is expected commence in the 2015 calendar year.

L Banks asked when the installation of the new traffic lights at the current site entrance on Browns Plains Road is expected to be completed. M Asnicar advised that it should be completed by late 2015, before the commencement of the of the new Bayliss Road entrance.

3.7 Invitations to Odour Complainants

At the Group's September 2009 meeting it was recommended that Council direction be sought on the proposal to send landfill odour complainants an invitation to join the Group. The matter was considered by Council at its meeting of 27 October 2009 when it resolved that written invitations to join the Group be sent to residents who make odour complaints about the landfill.

Further, at the Group's meeting of 25 June 2013 it was agreed that Council should ensure that invitations to join the Group are reissued to complainants who had been previously invited over six months previously. (It had previously been Council's practice to not send multiple invitations to residents making multiple complaints.)

There were 4 complaints made during the March to May 2015 period and:

- One invitation to join the Group was issued;
- The remainder were from members of the group

3.8 Log Cabin House

L Banks enquired about when the cabin house would be demolished. M Asnicar advised that no date has been set for the demolition of the dwelling.

4.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

L Banks mentioned the date of the meeting was not suitable for J Lee, and a request to organise the meeting around her holiday had previously been made.

M Asnicar apologised for the oversight in organising this meeting.

5.0 CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING

The meeting closed at 1.20pm.

Invitations and agendas for the next meeting in September will be issued in due course.